

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EB-03 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 FEA-01 IO-03 DRC-01

EUR-10 /062 W

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P R 081557Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6401

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USINT BAGHDAD

USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 1635

LIMDIS

STATE ALSO FOR T IEP

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG PFOR LE

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S FEB 6 ENERGY SPEECH: EARLY REACTION ITEM

1. ACCORDING MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY (MEES)
EDITOR ITAYIM, WHO VOLUNTEERED FOL TO EMBOFF,
ARAB OIL CIRCLES BEIRUT PUZZLED AND RESENTFUL BY WHAT
THEY SEE AS HARDER LINE OF SECRETARY'S SPEECH, SPECIFICALLY,
USE OF TERM "BLACKMAIL." HE SAID WASHINGTON
SHOULD REALIZE THAT SOME ARABS VIEW SUEZ DISENGAGEMENT
NOT AS PROGRESS BUT AS EGYPTIAN SELLOUT IN THAT IT
RESULTS IN BETTER PROTECTION FOR ISRAELI FORCES IN
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SINAI AND HAS ALREADY PERMITTED ISRAEL DEMOBILIZE
75,000 SOLDIERS, THUS IMPROVING ISRAELI ECONOMIC
SITUATION. SINCE SUEZ DISENGAGEMENT WAS SETBACK FROM
VIEWPOINT ONE SECTOR ARAB OPINION, ITAYIM SAID,

WASHINGTON UNREASONABLE IN VIEWING IT AS GROUND FOR LIFTING OF EMBARGO. HE CONTINUES BELIEVE LIFTING DEPENDS ON PROGRESS ON SYRIAN DISENGAGEMENT.

2. ITAYIM ALSO SAID SPEECH LEADS LOCAL OBSERVERS TO CONCLUDE THAT LIFTING OF EMBARGO BEING PRESSED PREMATURELY FOR DOMESTIC US POLITICAL REASONS.

COMMENT; ITAYIM WAS REACTING TO FIRST WIRE SERVICE ACCOUNTS OF SPEECH. THESE OBSCURED (AND BEIRUT EDITORS FURTHER OBSCURED) FACT THAT "BLACKMAIL" QUOTE CAME IN QUESTION PERIOD, NOT IN SPEECH TEXT (WHICH ITAYIM NOW HAS). ITAYIM OF PALESTINIAN BACKGROUND AND, SINCE ISRAELI RAID ON BEIRUT LAST APRIL, HIS BIASES MORE EVIDENT, EVEN CREEPING OCCASIONALLY INTO HIS PETROLEUM NEWSLETTER. HIS INFLUENCE SHOULD NOT BE EXAGGERATED BUT HIS VIEWPOINT WORTH REPORTING IN LIGHT HIS LARGE NUMBER OF PALESTINIAN CONTACTS. HOUGHTON

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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, LE, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: STATE INFO JIDDA
KUWAIT
LONDON
PARIS
ROME
TEHRAN
TEL AVIV

VIENNA
BAGHDAD
CAIRO

Type: TE

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